

Exhibit J

Oxford Thesaurus of English

The world's most
trusted dictionaries

wherever you are



OXFORD

UNIVERSITY PRESS

Great Clarendon Street, Oxford OX2 6DP

Oxford University Press is a department of the University of Oxford.

It furthers the University's objective of excellence in research, scholarship,
and education by publishing worldwide in

Oxford New York

Auckland Cape Town Dar es Salaam Hong Kong Karachi

Kuala Lumpur Madrid Melbourne Mexico City Nairobi

New Delhi Shanghai Taipei Toronto

With offices in

Argentina Austria Brazil Chile Czech Republic France Greece

Guatemala Hungary Italy Japan Poland Portugal Singapore

South Korea Switzerland Thailand Turkey Ukraine Vietnam

Oxford is a registered trade mark of Oxford University Press
in the UK and in certain other countries

© Oxford University Press 2000, 2004, 2006, 2009

Database right Oxford University Press (makers)

First edition 2000

Second edition 2004

Second edition, revised 2006

Third edition 2009

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced,
stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means,
without the prior permission in writing of Oxford University Press,
or as expressly permitted by law, or under terms agreed with the appropriate
reprographics rights organization. Enquiries concerning reproduction
outside the scope of the above should be sent to the Rights Department,
Oxford University Press, at the address above

You must not circulate this book in any other binding or cover
and you must impose this same condition on any acquirer

British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data

Data available

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

Data available

Typeset in Parable, Frutiger, and Argo by Asiatype, Inc.

Printed in Italy by Rotolito Lombarda S.p.A.

ISBN 978-0-19-956081-3

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

informal matey, decent; *N. Amer.* informal clubby, buddy buddy; *see* conversable.
ANTONYMS unfriendly, prickly.

affair noun 1 *what my mum does in her spare time is her affair*: business, concern, matter, responsibility, province, preserve, interest; problem, worry, lookout; informal pigeon, funeral, headache, baby, bailiwick.

2 (affairs) *they aren't worried about their financial affairs*: transactions, concerns, matters, activities, dealings, undertakings, ventures, proceedings; business, field, sphere; informal goings-on, doings.

3 *this is a truly shocking affair*: event, incident, happening, occurrence, phenomenon, eventuality, episode, interlude, circumstance, set of circumstances, adventure, experience, case, matter, business, thing, proceedings.

4 *I heard there were to be fireworks—it'll be a grand affair*: party, celebration, function, reception, gathering, soirée, event, social event, occasion, social occasion; informal do, rave, bash, get-together, blowout; *Brit.* informal rave up, thrash, knees up, beanfeast, beano, bunfight, jolly.

5 *the director and his secretary were having an affair*: relationship, love affair, romance, fling, flirtation, dalliance, liaison, entanglement, romantic entanglement, involvement, attachment, affair of the heart, intrigue; relations; *fr.* affaire, affaire de/du cœur, amour; informal hanky-panky; *Brit.* informal carry-on.

affect¹ verb 1 *the climate was likely to be affected by greenhouse gas emissions*: influence, exert influence on, have an effect on, act on, work on, condition, touch, have an impact on, impact on, take hold of, attack, infect, strike, strike at, hit; change, alter, modify, transform, form, shape, control, govern, determine, decide, guide, sway, bias.

ANTONYMS be unaffected.

2 *she had been deeply affected by her parents' divorce*: upset, trouble, hit hard, overwhelm, devastate, damage, hurt, pain, grieve, sadden, distress, disturb, perturb, agitate, shake, shake up, stir, move, touch, tug at someone's heartstrings; make an impression on; informal knock for six, knock back, bowl over, throw, faze, get to.

ANTONYMS be unaffected, be indifferent to.

affect² verb 1 *he deliberately affected a republican stance*: assume, put on, take on, adopt, like, have a liking for, embrace, espouse.

2 *she affected a small frown of concentration*: pretend, feign, fake, counterfeit, sham, simulate, fabricate, give the appearance of, make a show of, make a pretence of, play at, go through the motions of; informal put on; *N. Amer.* informal make like.

Easily confused words affect or effect?

Affect and **effect** are quite different in meaning, though frequently confused. **Affect** is primarily a verb meaning either 'make a difference to', as in *their gender need not affect their career (affect¹)*, or 'pretend to have or feel', as in *I affected a supreme unconcern (affect²)*. **Effect**, on the other hand, is commonly used both as a noun and as a verb, meaning 'something brought about' as a noun (*move the cursor until you get the effect you want*) or 'bring about (a result)' as a verb (*growth in the economy can only be effected by stringent economic controls*).

affectation noun 1 *she has no affectation (the affectations of a prima donna)*: pretension, pretentiousness, affectedness, artificiality, insincerity, posturing, posing, pretence, ostentation, grandiosity, snobbery, superciliousness; airs, airs and graces, pretensions; informal snootiness, uppishness, humbug; *Brit.* informal side.

ANTONYMS naturalness.

2 *nothing would shake his affectation of calm*: facade, front, show, appearance, false display, pretence, simulation, posture, pose, sham, fake, act, masquerade, charade, mask, cloak, veil, veneer, guise; make believe, play acting, feigning, shamming.

affected adjective *he was talking in the rather affected boom he used with strangers*: pretentious, high flown, ostentatious, pompous, grandiose, over-elaborate, overblown, overworked, overdone; contrived, forced, laboured, strained, stiff, posed, staid, studied, mannered, hollow, insincere, unconvincing; artificial, unnatural, assumed, pretended, feigned, false, fake, faked, counterfeit, sham, simulated, spurious, pseudo, mock, imitation; informal la di da, hoity toity, highfalutin, fancy pants, posy, pseud, phoney, pretend, put on; *Brit.* informal poncey, posh, toffee nosed.

ANTONYMS natural, unpretentious, genuine.

affecting adjective *their fumbling onstage shyness is oddly affecting*: touching, moving, emotive, powerful, stirring, impressive, telling, soul-stirring, uplifting, heart-warming; poignant, pathetic, pitiful, piteous, plaintive, emotional, tear-jerking, heart-rending, heartbreaking, disturbing, distressing, upsetting, saddening, sad, painful, agonizing, harrowing, tragic, haunting.

ANTONYMS unaffected, unmoving.

Choose the right word affecting, moving, touching

See moving.

affection noun *they greeted each other with obvious affection*: fondness, love, liking, endearment, feeling, sentiment, tenderness, warmth, warmth, devotion, care; caring, attentiveness, closeness, attachment, affinity, friendliness, friendship, intimacy, familiarity; amity, favour, regard, respect, admiration; warm feelings.

affectionate adjective *an affectionate hug* | *Thomas is such an affectionate child*: loving, fond, adoring, devoted, caring, doting, tender, warm, warm-hearted, big-hearted, soft-centred, soft-hearted, soft, unselfish, kind, kind-hearted, kindly, comforting, sympathetic, solicitous, supportive, attentive, friendly, demonstrative, cuddly, amicable, cordial, welcoming, good-natured; brotherly, sisterly, motherly, fatherly, maternal, paternal, maternalistic, paternalistic; informal touchy-feely, lovey-dovey, chummy, pally; *Brit.* informal matey; *N. Amer.* informal buddy buddy.

ANTONYMS cold, unfeeling.

affianced adjective *Edward was affianced to Lady Eleanor. See engaged (sense 2)*

affiliate verb *the college is affiliated with the University of Wisconsin* | *the society is not affiliated to any political party*: associate with, be in league with, unite with, combine with, join with, join up with, join forces with, ally with, form an alliance with, align with, amalgamate with, merge with, coalesce with, federate with, confederate with, form a federation with, form a confederation with, team up with, band together with, cooperate with; annex to, attach to, yoke to, incorporate into, integrate into.

affiliated adjective *the committee comprised two delegates from each affiliated club*: associated, allied, related, integrated, amalgamated, incorporated, federated, confederated, unified, connected, linked, joined, bound, belonging; in league, in partnership.

affiliation noun *it rejected affiliation to the current left-wing parties* | *an economist with no party political affiliation*: annexing, attaching, connecting, joining, bonding, uniting, combining, associating, aligning, allying, amalgamation, amalgamating, merging, incorporation, incorporating, integration, integrating, federating, federation, confederating, confederation, coupling, fusion; connection, relationship, fellowship, partnership, association, coalition, union, alliance, alignment, attachment, link, bond, tie, yoke; communication, rapport, sympathy, cooperation, collaboration, belonging; *see* consociation.

affinity noun 1 *she has a natural affinity with animals and birds*: empathy, rapport, sympathy, accord, harmony, like-mindedness, closeness to, fellow feeling for, understanding of; liking for, fondness for, inclination towards, partiality for, penchant for, predilection towards, attraction towards; *informal* chemistry.

ANTONYMS dislike, aversion.

2 *there is a semantic affinity between the two words*: similarity, resemblance, likeness, kinship, correspondence, relationship, association, link, analogy, similitude, agreement, compatibility, congruity, parallelism, consonance; identity, identicalness, uniformity, equivalence.

ANTONYMS dissimilitude.

3 *despite their different backgrounds, an affinity grew and developed*: relationship, bond, connection, propinquity.

ANTONYMS antipathy, blood relationship.

affirm verb 1 *he affirmed that they would lend military assistance*: declare, state, assert, aver, proclaim, pronounce, attest, swear, avow, vow, guarantee, promise, certify, pledge, give one's word, give an undertaking; *see* asseverate.

ANTONYMS deny.

2 *the charter affirmed the right of national minorities to use their own language*: uphold, support, defend, maintain, confirm, ratify, endorse, approve (of), agree to, consent to, assent to, sanction.

affirmation noun 1 *an affirmation of faith*: assertion, declaration, statement, proclamation, pronouncement, attestation, assurance; oath, vow, swearing, avowal, guarantee, promise, certification, pledge; deposition; *see* asseveration, averment.

ANTONYMS denial, refutation.

2 *the poem ends with an affirmation of pastoral values*: confirmation, ratification, endorsement, defence.

affirmative adjective *an affirmative answer*: positive, assenting, consenting, agreeing, concurring, corroborative, favourable, approving, encouraging, supportive, in the affirmative.

ANTONYMS dissenting, negative.

▶ noun *Penelope took his grant as an affirmative*: agreement, acceptance, approval, confirmation, assent, ratification, acquiescence, concurrence; OK, yes.

ANTONYMS disagreement.

affix verb 1 *he affixed a stamp to the envelope*: attach, stick, fasten, bind, fix, post, secure, join, connect, couple; clip, tack, pin; glue, paste, gum, tape; *trademark* Sellotape.

ANTONYMS detach, remove.

2 *form affix your signature to the document*: append, add, add on, attach.

afflict verb *he was afflicted with chills*: trouble, bother, burden, distress, cause trouble to, cause suffering to, beset, harass, worry, oppress,

affix verb **1** *he affixed a stamp to the envelope*: **attach**, stick, fasten, bind, fix, post, secure, join, connect, couple; clip, tack, pin; glue, paste, gum, tape; trademark Sellotape.

▷ **ANTONYMS** detach, remove.

2 formal *affix your signature to the document*: **append**, add, add on, attach.

atom | attain

a

atom noun *they build tiny circuits atom by atom | there wasn't an atom of truth in the allegations*: particle, molecule, bit, little bit, tiny bit, tiny piece, fragment, fraction, grain, granule, crumb, morsel, mote, speck, spot, dot; iota, jot, whit, scrap, shred, trace, tinge, ounce, modicum, scintilla, vestige, lish stim, informal smidgen, smidge, tad, archaic scantling, scruple.

atone verb *what would you have me do to atone for my sin? make amends*, make reparation, make restitution, make recompense, make redress, make up for, compensate, pay, pay the penalty, pay the price, recompense, answer; expiate, make good, offset; do penance, redeem oneself, redress the balance; luma require.

atonement noun *I was making a pilgrimage in atonement for my sins*: reparation, compensation, recompense, payment, repayment, redress, restitution, indemnity, indemnification, expiation, penance, redemption; amends; formal requital; rare solatium.

atrocious adjective 1 *atrocious cruelties were committed in the name of religion*: brutal, barbaric, barbarous, brutish, savage, vicious, wicked, cruel, nasty, ruthless, merciless, villainous, murderous, heinous, nefarious, monstrous, base, low, low down, vile, inhuman, infernal, dark, black, black hearted, fiendish, hellish, diabolical, ghastly, horrible, abominable, outrageous, offensive, hateful, disgusting, despicable, contemptible, loathsome, odious, revolting, repellent, repugnant, abhorrent, harrowing, nightmarish, gruesome, grisly, sickening, nauseating, horrifying, hideous, unspeakable, unforgivable, intolerable, beyond the pale, scandalous, flagrant, execrable; informal horrid, gross, sick-making, sick; Brit informal beastly; archaic disgusting, loathly, scurvy; rare egregious, flagitious, cadodemonic, lacinorous.

▶ ANTONYMS admirable; kindly.

2 *the weather was atrocious*: appalling, dreadful, terrible, very bad, unpleasant, lamentable, woeful, miserable, poor, inadequate, unsatisfactory; informal abysmal, dire, rotten, crummy, lousy, posy, yucky, God-awful, the pits; Brit informal shocking, duff, beastly, chronic, pants, a load of pants, rubbish, rubbishy, ropy, vulgar slang crap, crappy, chickenshit; archaic direful.

▶ ANTONYMS superb.

atrociousness noun 1 *press reports detailed a number of atrocities*: act of barbarity, act of brutality, act of savagery, act of wickedness, cruelty, abomination, enormity, outrage, horror, monstrosity, obscenity, iniquity, violation, crime, transgression, wrong, wrongdoing, offence, injury, affront, scandal, injustice, abuse; law maleficence, tort.

2 *he observed conflict and atrocity around the globe*: barbarity, barbarism, brutality, savagery, inhumanity, cruelty, wickedness, badness, baseness, evil, iniquity, horror, heinousness, villainy, lawlessness, crime, transgression, wrong, wrongdoing, injustice, abuse; law maleficence; rare malefaction.

atrophy verb 1 *the body parts which are no longer required gradually atrophy*: waste away, waste, become emaciated, wither, shrivel, shrivel up, shrink, become shrunken, dry up, decay, wilt, decline, deteriorate, degenerate, grow weak, weaken, become debilitated, become enfeebled.

▶ ANTONYMS strengthen.

2 *in the final few days, the Labour campaign atrophied*: peter out, taper off, tail off, dwindle, deteriorate, decline, wane, fade, fade away, fade out, give in, give up, give way, crumble, disintegrate, collapse, slump, go downhill, draw to a close, subside; be neglected, be abandoned, be disregarded, be forgotten.

▶ ANTONYMS flourish.

▶ noun *they located the gene that causes muscular atrophy*: wasting, wasting away, emaciation, withering, shrivelling, shrivelling up, shrinking, drying up, wilting, decaying, decay, declining, deteriorating, deterioration, degenerating, degeneration, weakening, debilitation, enfeeblement.

▶ ANTONYMS strengthening.

attach verb 1 *his ankles were attached by chains to the wall*: fasten, fix, affix, join, connect, couple, link, secure, make fast, tie, tie up, bind, tether, strap, rope, tether, truss, lash, hatch, moor, anchor, yoke, chain; stick, tape, adhere, glue, bond, cement, fuse, weld, solder, pin, peg, screw, bolt, rivet, batten, pinion, clamp, clip, add, append, annex, subjoin.

▶ ANTONYMS detach.

2 *he attached himself to the radical section of the Liberal Party*: affiliate with, associate with, align with, ally with, unite with, combine with, integrate into, join to; join up with, join forces with, band together with, team up with, latch on to, cooperate with, be in league with, form an alliance with, make a pact with; informal tag along with.

▶ ANTONYMS break away from.

3 *they attached great importance to research*: ascribe, assign, attribute, accredit, apply, impute; invest with, put on, place on, lay on.

4 *he is the medical officer attached to Brigade Headquarters*: assign, allot, allocate, detail, appoint; relocate, reassign, transfer, move, send, second, lend.

▶ ANTONYMS separate.

5 *the state attached criminals' property*: seize, confiscate, commandeer, requisition, appropriate, expropriate, take possession of, take away, take, sequester, sequester; law disclaim, disclaim; Scottish law poind.

attached adjective 1 *the young couple are now attached*: married, wed, wedded, joined in marriage, joined in matrimony, united in wedlock; engaged, affianced, pledged, promised, promised in marriage, going out, spoken for, involved; united, bound, contracted; informal hitched, spliced, yoked, shackled, going steady, boyfriend and girlfriend; dated betrothed; archaic espoused, plighted.

▶ ANTONYMS unattached, single.

2 *she was very attached to her brother*: fond of, devoted to, full of regard for, full of admiration for, affectionate towards, tender towards, caring towards; informal mad about, crazy about, nuts about.

attachment noun 1 *he had a strong attachment to his mother*: bond, closeness, devotion, loyalty; fondness for, love for, liking for, affection for, affinity for, tenderness for, feeling for, sentiment for, regard for, respect for, admiration for, reverence for, relationship with, friendship with, intimacy with.

2 *the shower had a soothing massage attachment*: accessory, fitting, fitment, extension, supplementary part, supplementary component, extra, extra part, adjunct, addition, add-on, appurtenance, appendage, accoutrement, auxiliary.

3 *all cars have points for the attachment of safety restraints*: fixing, fastening, affixing, linking, coupling, clamping, connection, connecting, addition, adding, incorporation, introduction, insertion.

4 *he was on attachment from another regiment*: assignment, detail, appointment, allocation, secondment, transfer, relocation.

5 *he maintained his family's Conservative attachment*: affiliation, association, alliance, alignment, union, bond, liaison, coalition, partnership, fellowship, belonging; links, ties, connections, sympathies.

6 *the attachment of criminals' property*: seizure, confiscation, appropriation, expropriation, sequestration, taking away, commandeering; law distraintment, disclaim; Scottish law poinding.

attack verb 1 *Christopher had been brutally attacked*: assault, beat, beat up, batter, thrash, pound, pummel, assail, set upon, fall upon, set about, strike at, let fly at, tear into, lash out at; ambush, mug, pounce on; informal jump, paste, do over, work over, knock about/around, rough up, lay into, lace into, sail into, pitch into, get stuck into, beat the living daylights out of, let someone have it; Brit informal have a go at, duff someone up; N Amer informal beat up on, light into.

2 *by eight o'clock the French had still not attacked*: begin an assault, charge, pounce, strike, begin hostilities, ambush; bombard, shell, blitz, strafe, fire on/at; rush, storm.

▶ ANTONYMS defend.

3 *the clergy have consistently attacked government policies*: criticize, censure, condemn, castigate, chastise, lambaste, pillory, savage, find fault with, fulminate against, abuse; berate, reprove, rebuke, reprimand, admonish, remonstrate with, reproach, take to task, haul over the coals, impugn, harangue, blame, revile, vilify, give someone a bad press; informal knock, slam, take to pieces, pull apart, crucify, bash, hammer, lay into, tear into, sail into, roast, give someone a roasting, cane, blast, haul out, dress down, rap over the knuckles, have a go at, give someone hell; Brit informal carpet, slate, slag off, rubbish, monster, rollick, give someone a rollicking, give someone a rocket, tear someone off a strip, tear a strip off someone; N Amer informal chew out, ream out, pummel, cut up; Austral/NZ informal bag, Brit vulgar slang bollock, give someone a bollocking; dated rate; archaic slash; rare excoriate, objugate, reprehend.

▶ ANTONYMS praise.

4 *they have started to attack the problem of threatened species*: attend to, address, see to, deal with, grapple with, confront, direct one's attention to, focus on, concentrate on, apply oneself to, buckle down to, get to work on, go to work on, set to work on, set about, get started on, undertake, embark on; informal get stuck into, get cracking on, get weaving on, have a crack at, have a go at, have a shot at, have a stab at.

5 *the virus attacks the liver, heart, and lungs*: affect, have an effect on, strike, strike at, take hold of, infect; damage, injure.

▶ ANTONYMS protect.

▶ noun 1 *they were killed in an attack on their home*: assault, onslaught, offensive, strike, blitz, raid, sortie, sally, storming, charge, rush, drive, push, thrust, invasion, incursion, inroad; act of aggression; informal razzia; archaic onset.

2 *she wrote a ferociously hostile attack on him*: criticism, censure, rebuke, admonition, admonishment, reprimand, reproof, condemnation, denunciation, revilement; invective, vilification; tirade, diatribe, rant, polemic, broadside, harangue, verbal onslaught, stricture; informal knocking, telling off, dressing down, rap over the knuckles, earful, roasting, rollicking, caning; Brit informal rocket, wiggling, slating, ticking off, carpeting, bashing, blast; Brit vulgar slang bollocking; dated rating; rare philippic.

▶ ANTONYMS commendation, defence.

3 *she had suffered an acute asthmatic attack*: fit, seizure, spasm, convulsion, paroxysm, outburst, flare-up, bout, spell, dose; rare access.

attacker noun *she was punched in the face by the attacker*: assailant, assaulter, aggressor, striker, mugger, rapist, killer, murderer; informal slasher.

attain verb *they help the child attain his or her full potential*: achieve, accomplish, reach, arrive at, come by, obtain, gain, procure, secure, get,

attach verb **1** *his ankles were attached by chains to the wall*: **fasten**, fix, affix, join, connect, couple, link, secure, make fast, tie, tie up, bind, fetter, strap, rope, tether, truss, lash, hitch, moor, anchor, yoke, chain; stick, tape, adhere, glue, bond, cement, fuse, weld, solder; pin, peg, screw, bolt, rivet, batten, pinion, clamp, clip; add, append, annex, subjoin.

▷ **ANTONYMS** detach.

2 *he attached himself to the radical section of the Liberal Party*: **affiliate with**, associate with, align with, ally with, unite with, combine with, integrate into, join to; join up with, join forces with, band together with, team up with, latch on to, cooperate with, be in league with, form an alliance with, make a pact with; informal tag along with.

▷ **ANTONYMS** break away from.

3 *they attached great importance to research*: **ascribe**, assign, attribute, accredit, apply, impute; invest with, put on, place on, lay on.

4 *he is the medical officer attached to Brigade Headquarters*: **assign**, allot, allocate, detail, appoint; relocate, reassign, transfer, move, send, second, lend.

▷ **ANTONYMS** separate.

5 *Law the state attached criminals' property*: **seize**, confiscate, commandeer, requisition, appropriate, expropriate, take possession of, take away, take, sequester, sequesterate; *Law* distraint, disseize; *Scottish Law* poind.

bursting, crammed full, cram full, thronged, packed, jammed, teeming, swarming, overloaded, obstructed, impeded, blocked (up), clogged, choked, plugged, stopped up; *informal* snarled up, gridlocked, jam packed; *Brit. informal* like Piccadilly Circus.

▷ **ANTONYMS** clear.

congestion noun *an attempt to relieve some of the congestion on the roads:* crowding, overcrowding, obstruction, blockage, stoppage, blocking, clogging, choking, plugging, stuffing; *traffic* jam, bottleneck; *informal* snarl-up, gridlock.

▷ **ANTONYMS** flow.

conglomerate noun 1 *the conglomerate was broken up:* corporation, combine, group, grouping, consortium, partnership, joint concern, trust, merger, merged firms/companies/businesses; firm, company, business, multinational; *Japanese* zaibatsu.

2 *Austria-Hungary was a conglomerate of disparate peoples:* mixture, mix, combination, mingling, commingling, amalgamation, amalgam, union, conjunction, marriage, merging, compound, alloy, fusion, meld, composite, concoction, synthesis, homogenization; *miscellaneous*, jumble, hotchpotch; *informal* mash up.

3 *Geology:* a rocky conglomerate: aggregate, agglomerate.

▷ **adjective** a conglomerate mass: aggregate, agglomerate, amassed, gathered, clustered, combined.

▷ **verb** the debris then conglomerated into planets: coalesce, unite, join together, combine, merge, fuse, consolidate, amalgamate, integrate, mingle, meld, blend, intermingle, knit (together), link up, converge, come together; *literary* commingle.

▷ **ANTONYMS** split up.

conglomeration noun *an extremely odd conglomeration of church buildings:* collection, cluster, assortment, mix, variety, medley, mixed bag, pot pourri, miscellany, selection, combination; accumulation, mass, gathering, cumulation, package, aggregation, accretion, agglomerate, agglomeration; *rare* amassment.

congratulate verb 1 *she took the opportunity to congratulate Nicholas on his marriage:* give someone one's good wishes, wish someone good luck, wish someone joy, drink someone's health, toast, drink (a toast) to.

▷ **ANTONYMS** curse.

2 *all three are to be congratulated for passing with flying colours:* praise, commend, applaud, salute, honour, eulogize, extol, acclaim, sing the praises of, heap praise on, pay tribute to, speak highly/well of, flatter, compliment, say nice things about, express admiration for, wax lyrical about, make much of, pat on the back, take one's hat off to, throw bouquets at; *informal* crack someone/something up; *N. Amer. informal* ballyhoo; *black English* big someone/something up; *dated* cry someone/something up; *archaic* emblazon; *rare* laud, panegyrize, felicitate.

▷ **ANTONYMS** criticize.

▷ **congratulate oneself** *he congratulated himself on his success:* take pride in, be/feel proud of, feel proud about, be proud of oneself for, flatter oneself on, preen oneself on, pat oneself on the back for, give oneself a pat on the back for; *find/take satisfaction in*, feel satisfaction at, take delight in, find/take pleasure in, glory in, bask in, delight in, exult in, plume oneself on; *archaic* pique oneself on/in.

▷ **ANTONYMS** be ashamed of.

congratulations plural noun 1 *Lily and Stephen accepted Muriel's congratulations on their wedding:* good wishes, best wishes, greetings, compliments, felicitations.

2 *you all deserve congratulations for ensuring that the visit was such a success:* praise, commendation, applause, salutes, honour, acclaim, acclamation, tribute, cheers, ovation, accolade, plaudits, felicitations; approval, admiration, approbation, compliments, kudos, adulation, homage; a pat on the back, eulogy, encomium, panegyric, bouquets, laurels, testimonial; *rare* extolment, laudation, eulogium.

▷ **ANTONYMS** blame.

congregate verb *some 4000 demonstrators had congregated at a border point:* assemble, gather, collect, come together, flock together, get together, convene, rally, rendezvous, muster, meet, amass, crowd, cluster, throng, group; *rare* foregather.

▷ **ANTONYMS** disperse.

congregation noun 1 *he broke the news to the congregation in the church newsletter:* parishioners, parish, churchgoers, flock, fold, faithful, following, followers, adherents, believers, loyal members, fellowship, communicants, laity, brethren, brothers and sisters, souls.

2 *such congregations of birds may cause public harm | a large congregation of protesters gathered:* gathering, assembly, flock, swarm, bevy, herd, pack, group, body, crowd, mass, multitude, horde, host, mob, turnout, throng, company, rally, convocation, congress, council, conclave, synod, assemblage; *informal* get together; *historical* conventicle.

congress noun 1 *an international congress of mathematicians:* conference, convention, seminar, colloquium, symposium, consultation, forum, meeting, assembly, gathering, congregation, rally, convocation, summit, synod, council, conclave; *historical* conventicle.

2 *elections for the new Congress were held on 8 November:* legislature,

legislative assembly, parliament, convocation, diet, council, senate, chamber, chamber of deputies, house, upper house, lower house, upper chamber, lower chamber, second chamber.

congruence noun *he took care that there should be congruence of meaning and sound in his music:* compatibility, consistency, conformity, match, balance, consonance, rapport, parallelism, congruity, consilience; agreement, concord, accord, consensus, unanimity, harmony, unison, unity, concert.

▷ **ANTONYMS** conflict.

conical adjective *a circular tower with a conical roof:* cone shaped, tapered, tapering, pointed, funnel-shaped; *informal* pointy; *technical* infundibular, turbinate, conoid.

conjectural adjective *comments on inner-city areas are likely to be more conjectural:* speculative, suppositional, theoretical, hypothetical, putative, academic, notional, abstract; postulated, based on guesswork, inferred, suspected, presumed, assumed, presupposed, tentative, unproven, untested, unfounded, groundless, unsubstantiated; *rare* ideational, suppositious, suppositive, postulational.

▷ **ANTONYMS** established.

conjecture noun *we find his conjectures implausible | some of the information is merely conjecture:* guess, speculation, surmise, fancy, notion, belief, suspicion, presumption, assumption, theory, hypothesis, postulation, supposition; inference, extrapolation, projection; approximation, estimate, rough calculation, rough idea; guesswork, guessing, surmising, imagining, theorizing; *informal* guesstimate, shot in the dark, *N. Amer. informal* ballpark figure.

▷ **ANTONYMS** fact.

▷ **verb** I conjectured that the game was about to end: guess, speculate, surmise, infer, fancy, imagine, believe, think, suspect, presume, assume, hypothesize, take as a hypothesis, theorize, form/formulate a theory, suppose.

▷ **ANTONYMS** know.

conjugal adjective *the conjugal bond:* marital, matrimonial, nuptial, marriage, married, wedded, connubial, bridal; *rare* spousal; *literary* hymeneal, epithalamic.

conjunction noun *the conjunction of low inflation and low unemployment came as a very pleasant surprise:* co-occurrence, concurrence, coincidence, coexistence, simultaneity, simultaneousness, contemporaneity, contemporaneousness, concomitance, synchronicity, synchrony; combination, juxtaposition.

▷ **in conjunction** *he explained how they work in conjunction with the police to prevent crime in the area:* together, jointly, conjointly, in cooperation, cooperatively, in collaboration, in partnership, in combination, as one, in unison, in concert, concertedly, with one accord, in league, in alliance, in collusion, side by side, hand in hand, hand in glove, shoulder to shoulder, cheek by jowl; *informal* in cahoots.

▷ **ANTONYMS** separately.

conjure verb 1 *he conjured another cigarette out of the air:* make something appear, produce, materialize, magic, summon, generate, whip up.

2 *the picture that his words conjured up left her breathless:* bring to mind, call to mind, put one in mind of, call up, evoke, summon up, recall, recreate; echo, allude to, suggest; rouse (up), stir (up), raise up, awaken.

conjuring noun *a demonstration of conjuring:* magic, illusion, sleight of hand, legerdemain, dexterity, deception, hocus potas, *formal* prestidigitation.

conjuror noun *the children were entertained by a local conjuror:* magician, illusionist; *Brit.* member of the Magic Circle; *formal* prestidigitator.

connect verb 1 *the electrodes were connected to a recording device:* attach, join, fasten, fix, affix, couple, link, bridge, secure, make fast, tie, tie up, bind, fetter, strap, rope, tether, truss, lash, hitch, moor, anchor, yoke, chain; stick, tape, adhere, glue, bond, cement, fuse, weld, solder, pin, peg, screw, bolt, rivet, batten, pinion, clamp, clip, hook (up); add, append, annex, subjoin; *technical* concatenate.

▷ **ANTONYMS** disconnect.

2 *there are lots of customs connected with Twelfth Night:* associate, link, couple; identify, equate, bracket, compare; think of something together with, think of something in connection with, relate to, mention in the same breath as, set side by side with, draw a parallel with.

▷ **ANTONYMS** dissociate.

connection noun 1 *he does not pursue the connection between commerce and art:* link, relationship, relation, relatedness, interrelation, interrelatedness, interconnection, interdependence, association, attachment, bond, tie, tie in, correspondence, parallel, analogy, bearing, relevance.

2 *there's a poor connection in the plug:* attachment, joint, fastening, coupling.

3 *a politician with all the right connections:* contact, friend, acquaintance, ally, colleague, associate, sponsor; relation, relative, kindred, kin, kinsman, kinswoman.

▷ **in connection with** *a man is being questioned in connection with the murder:* regarding, concerning, with reference to, referring to, with regard

connect verb **1** *the electrodes were connected to a recording device*: **attach**, join, fasten, fix, affix, couple, link, bridge, secure, make fast, tie, tie up, bind, fetter, strap, rope, tether, truss, lash, hitch, moor, anchor, yoke, chain; stick, tape, adhere, glue, bond, cement, fuse, weld, solder; pin, peg, screw, bolt, rivet, batten, pinion, clamp, clip, hook (up); add, append, annex, subjoin; technical concatenate.

▷ **ANTONYMS** disconnect.

2 *there are lots of customs connected with Twelfth Night*: **associate**, link, couple; identify, equate, bracket, compare; think of something together with, think of something in connection with; relate to, mention in the same breath as, set side by side with; draw a parallel with.

▷ **ANTONYMS** dissociate.

connection noun **1** *he does not pursue the connection between commerce and art*: **link**, relationship, relation, relatedness, interrelation, interrelatedness, interconnection, interdependence, association, attachment, bond, tie, tie-in, correspondence, parallel, analogy; bearing, relevance.

2 *there's a poor connection in the plug*: **attachment**, joint, fastening, coupling.

3 *a politician with all the right connections*: **contact**, friend, acquaintance, ally, colleague, associate, sponsor; relation, relative, kindred, kin, kinsman, kinswoman.

□ **in connection with** *a man is being questioned in connection with the murder*: **regarding**, concerning, with reference to, referring to, with regard

2 his hand slammed against the door, holding it fast: secure, secured, fastened, tight, firmly fixed; stuck, jammed, immovable, unbudgeable, stiff, closed, shut, to.

▶ **ANTONYMS** loose.

3 the dyes are boiled with yarn to produce a fast colour: indelible, lasting, permanent, stable.

▶ **ANTONYMS** temporary.

4 they remained fast friends: loyal, devoted, faithful, firm, steadfast, staunch, true, boon, bosom, inseparable; constant, lasting, unchanging, unwavering, enduring, unswerving; informal as thick as thieves.

5 a fast woman: promiscuous, licentious, dissolute, impure, unchaste, wanton, abandoned, of easy virtue; informal easy; N Amer. informal roundheeled; W Indian informal slack; derogatory sluttish, whorish, tarty, slaggy; dated loose; archaic light.

▶ **ANTONYMS** chaste.

6 the fast life she led in London: wild, dissipated, dissolute, debauched, immoderate, immoderate, louché, rakish, decadent, unrestrained, reckless, profligate, self-indulgent, shameless, sinful, immoral, extravagant; informal swinging.

▶ **ANTONYMS** sedate.

7 fast and furious the fun was fast and furious: frantic, wild, frenetic, hectic, fraught, feverish, fevered, mad, crazed, manic, hyperactive, energetic, intense, turbulent, tumultuous.

8 make fast the craft is made fast to the shore: attach, fasten, secure, fix, affix, join, connect, couple, link, tie, tie up, bind, fetter, strap, rope, tether, truss, lash, hitch, moor, anchor, yoke, chain.

▶ **adverb 1** she drove fast towards the gates: quickly, rapidly, swiftly, speedily, briskly, at speed, at full speed, at full tilt; energetically; hastily, with all haste, in haste, hurriedly, in a hurry, post haste, pell-mell without delay, expeditiously, with dispatch, like a shot, like a flash, in a flash, in the blink of an eye, in a wink, in a trice, in no time (at all), on the double, at the speed of light, like an arrow from a bow; informal double quick, in double quick time, p.d.q. (pretty damn quick), nippily, like (greased) lightning, at warp speed, hell for leather, like mad, like crazy, like the wind, like a bomb, like nobody's business, like a scalded cat, like the deuce, a mile a minute, like a bat out of hell, at warp speed; Brit. informal like the clappers, at a rate of knots, like billy o; N Amer. informal lickety split; literary apace.

▶ **ANTONYMS** slowly.

2 his wheels were stuck fast: securely, tightly, immovably, fixedly, firmly.

3 Richard's fast asleep: deeply, sound, completely.

4 she lived fast and dangerously: wildly, dissolutely, intemperately, immoderately, rakishly, recklessly, self-indulgently, extravagantly.

Word links fast

tachy- related prefix, as in tachycardia, tachygraphy

fast ² verb the ministry instructed people to fast, pray, and read scripture: abstain from food, refrain from eating, deny oneself food, go without food, go hungry, eat nothing, starve oneself, go on hunger strike.

▶ **ANTONYMS** eat; indulge oneself.

▶ **noun a five-day fast:** period of fasting, period of abstinence; hunger strike; diet.

▶ **ANTONYMS** feast.

fasten verb 1 he fastened the door behind him: bolt, lock, secure, make secure, make fast, chain, seal.

▶ **ANTONYMS** unfasten, unlock.

2 they fastened splints to his leg: attach, fix, affix, clip, pin, tack; stick, bond.

▶ **ANTONYMS** unfasten, remove.

3 the belt was fastened with an enormous silver buckle: buckle, join, do up, connect, couple, close, unite, link; lace (up), knot; button (up); zip (up).

▶ **ANTONYMS** unfasten, open.

4 he fastened his horse to a sapling on the bank of the river: tie, tie up, bind, tether, truss, fetter, lash, hitch, anchor, strap, rope.

▶ **ANTONYMS** unfasten, untie.

5 the dress fastens at the front with ten small buttons: become closed, close, do up; button (up), zip (up).

▶ **ANTONYMS** unfasten, undo.

6 his gaze fastened on me: focus, fix, be riveted, concentrate, zero in, zoom in, be brought to bear; direct at, aim at, point at.

7 blame had been fastened on some unknown nutter: ascribe to, attribute to, assign to, chalk up to, impute to; lay on, pin on, lay at the door of.

8 the critics fastened upon two sections of the report: single out, concentrate on, focus on, select, pick out, fix on, seize on.

fastidious adjective he was fastidious about personal hygiene: scrupulous, punctilious, painstaking, meticulous, assiduous, sedulous, perfectionist, fussy, finicky, dainty, over-particular; critical, overcritical, hypercritical, hard/difficult/impossible to please; pedantic, precise, exact, hair-splitting, exacting, demanding; informal pernickety, nit-picking, choosy, picky; N Amer. informal persnickety; archaic nice, overnice.

▶ **ANTONYMS** easy going; sloppy.

Word toolkit fastidious

See finicky.

fat adjective 1 a fat man walked in: plump, stout, overweight, heavy, large, solid, chubby, portly, rotund, flabby, paunchy, pot bellied, beer bellied, dumpy, meaty, broad in the beam, of ample proportions, Falstaffian; buxom; obese, corpulent, bloated, gross, gargantuan, elephantine; fleshy; informal tubby, roly poly, beefy, porky, blubbery, poddy, chunky, well padded, well covered, well upholstered; Brit. informal podgy, fubby; N Amer. informal lard-assed; Scottish literary sonsy; rare puffy, abdominal.

▶ **ANTONYMS** thin, skinny.

2 fat bacon: fatty, greasy, oily, oleaginous, unctuous; formal pinguid, adipose, sebaceous.

▶ **ANTONYMS** lean.

3 those fat books you're always reading: thick, big, chunky, substantial, extended, long.

▶ **ANTONYMS** thin.

4 informal a fat salary: large, substantial, considerable, sizeable; generous, handsome, ample, excellent, good, competitive.

▶ **ANTONYMS** small.

5 informal fat chance she had of influencing Guy: very little, not much, minimal, hardly any.

▶ **ANTONYMS** good.

▶ **noun 1** whales insulate themselves with layers of fat: fatty tissue, fat cells, blubber, adipose tissue.

2 he was tall and running to fat: fatness, plumpness, stoutness, heaviness, chubbiness, tubbiness, portliness, rotundity, podginess, flabbiness, bulk, excessive weight; obesity, corpulence, grossness; paunch, pot belly, beer belly, beer gut; informal flab, blubber, beef.

▶ **ANTONYMS** thinness.

3 fried bread in sizzling fat: cooking oil, animal fat, vegetable fat, grease, lard, suet, butter, margarine.

Word links fat

lipoid relating to fat

lipo- related prefix, as in liposuction, lipoprotein

fatal adjective 1 a fatal disease: deadly, lethal, mortal, causing death, death dealing, killing; final, terminal, incurable, untreatable, inoperable, malignant; tragic; literary deathly; archaic baneful.

▶ **ANTONYMS** harmless; superficial.

2 don't make the fatal mistake of assuming others think as you do: disastrous, devastating, ruinous, catastrophic, calamitous, cataclysmic, destructive, grievous, dire, crippling, crushing, injurious, harmful, costly; literary direful.

▶ **ANTONYMS** harmless; beneficial.

fatalism noun he experienced a sense of fatalism that kept his fear at bay: passive acceptance, resignation, acceptance, acceptance of the inevitable, stoicism, defeatism, pessimism, negativism, negative thinking, gloominess, doom and gloom, gloom, predeterminism, predestinarianism, necessitarianism, fate, fatedness.

fatality noun 1 there were hundreds of fatalities from radiation contamination: death, casualty, mortality, victim, loss, dead person; (fatalities) dead.

2 the programme is a recipe for increased fatalities on our roads: fatal accident, tragedy, disaster, catastrophe, calamity.

fate noun 1 I was ready for whatever fate had in store for me: destiny, providence, God's will, nemesis, kismet, astral influence, the stars, what is written in the stars, one's lot in life; predestination, predetermination, chance, luck, serendipity, fortuity, fortune, hazard, Lady Luck, Dame Fortune, Hinduism & Buddhism karma; schaic dole, cup, heritage.

2 I didn't want to put my fate in someone else's hands: future, destiny, outcome, issue, upshot, end, lot, due; archaic doom, dole.

3 the authorities warned that a similar fate would befall other convicted killers: death, demise, end, destruction, doom; ruin, downfall, undoing, finish, disaster, catastrophe, retribution, sentence.

4 (the Fates) the Fates might decide that it was his time to die: the weird sisters; Roman Mythology the Parcae; Greek Mythology the Moirai; Scandinavian Mythology the Norns.

▶ **verb (be fated)** his daughter was fated to face the same problem: be predestined, be preordained, be foreordained, be destined, be meant, be doomed, be foredoomed, be cursed, be damned; be sure, be certain, be bound, be guaranteed; be inevitable, be inescapable, be ineluctable.

fateful adjective 1 that fateful day when she met him: decisive, determining, critical, crucial, pivotal; momentous, important, of great importance, all important, key, significant, far reaching, historic, weighty, consequential, of great consequence, epoch making, portentous, apocalyptic; informal earth shattering, world shattering, earth shaking, world shaking.

▶ **ANTONYMS** trivial, unimportant.

□ **make fast** *the craft is made fast to the shore*: **attach**, fasten, secure, fix, affix, join, connect, couple, link, tie, tie up, bind, fetter, strap, rope, tether, truss, lash, hitch, moor, anchor, yoke, chain.

tie | till

888

oneself, pretty oneself, beautify oneself; informal titivate oneself, doll oneself up; Brit. informal tart oneself up; archaic plume oneself, trig oneself.

tie verb 1 *They tied Max to a chair:* **bind**, tie up, tether, hitch, strap, truss, fetter, rope, chain, make fast, moor, lash, attach, fasten, fix, secure, join, connect, link, couple.

▷ **ANTONYMS** untie.

2 *Renwick bent to tie his shoelace:* **do up**, knot, make a knot in, make a bow in, lace.

3 *women who do paid work at home feel themselves tied by childcare responsibilities:* **restrict**, restrain, limit, constrain, confine, cramp, hamper, hinder, impede, tie down, interfere with, slow, obstruct, block, handicap, hamstring, shackle, encumber, inhibit, check, curb, tie someone's hands, cramp someone's style; i.e. cumber, trammel.

4 *a pay deal tied to a productivity agreement:* **link**, couple, connect, relate, join, marry, wed; make conditional on, bind up with, bundle with.

5 *they tied for second place:* **draw**, be equal, be even, be level, be neck and neck.

▷ **tie someone down** *they didn't marry because she was afraid of being tied down.* See **tie** (sense 3 of the verb).

▷ **tie in** *you haven't seen how all this ties in with their long-term aims:* **be consistent**, tally, correlate, agree, be in agreement, accord, concur, coincide, conform, fit in, harmonize, be in tune, dovetail; correspond to, match, parallel, reflect, mirror; informal square; N. Amer. informal jibe.

▷ **tie something in** *her husband is able to tie in his shifts with hers at the hospital:* **fit in**, harmonize, dovetail, match, mirror, make something consistent, make something correspond, make something tally, make something correlate, make something agree, make something accord, make something coincide, make something conform; informal square.

▷ **tie someone/something up 1** *Gabriel tied up his pony:* **bind**, tie, tether, hitch, strap, truss, fetter, rope, chain, make fast, moor, lash, attach, fasten, fix, secure, join, connect, link. ▷ **ANTONYMS** untie. **2** *do not tie your money up if you think you may need it quickly:* **commit**, make unavailable, invest long-term. **3** *he is tied up in meetings all morning:* **occupy**, engage, busy, keep busy, book, reserve, commit. **4** *they were anxious to tie up the contract:* **finalize**, conclude, bring to a conclusion, wind up, wrap up, complete, finish off, seal, set the seal on, settle, secure, clinch.

▷ **noun 1** *a sleeveless jacket fastened at the back with ties:* **lace**, string, cord, ligature, wire, bond, fetter, link, fastening, fastener.

2 *he was wearing a collar and tie:* **necktie**, neckwear.

3 *it is important that we keep family ties strong:* **bond**, connection, link, liaison, attachment, association, kinship, affiliation, allegiance, friendship, cords, union, relationship, relatedness, interdependence.

4 *pets can be a tremendous tie:* **restriction**, curb, limitation, constraint, obligation, commitment, restraint, hindrance, check, obstruction, encumbrance, impediment, handicap.

5 *the race ended in a tie for first place:* **draw**, dead heat, deadlock, stalemate.

6 *Brit. Turkey's World Cup tie against Holland:* **contest**, fixture, match, game, event, trial, test, test match, meeting, bout, fight, prizefight, duel; quarter final, semi final, final; friendly, derby, local derby; play off, replay, rematch; Canadian & Scottish playdown; N. Amer. split; archaic tourney.

tie-in *there's a tie-in to another case I'm working on:* **connection**, association, link, correlation, correspondence, parallel, tie-up, interrelation, relationship, relation, relatedness, interconnection, interdependence, analogy, similarity.

tier *noun 1* *rising tiers of empty seats:* **row**, rank, bank, line, layer, level, plane, floor, storey, deck.

2 *the most senior tier of management:* **grade**, gradation, step, echelon, point on the scale, rung on the ladder; archaic degree.

tie-up *noun the Bombay-based firm is contemplating tie-ups with software houses abroad:* **link**, link up, association, relationship, liaison; deal, bargain, contract, (business) arrangement, covenant, accommodation, understanding, settlement, protocol, accord, entente, compact, bond, alliance, coalition, federation, axis; N. Amer. trust.

tiff *noun informal she had had a tiff with Mr Carson:* **quarrel**, squabble, row, argument, fight, contretemps, disagreement, difference of opinion, dissension, falling out, dispute, disputation, contention, clash, altercation, shouting match, exchange, war of words, tussle, conflict, fracas, affray, wrangle, tangle; Irish, N. Amer., & Austral. donnybrook; informal set to, run in, shindig, shindy, stand up, spat, scrap, dust up; Brit. informal barney, slanging match, bunfight, ding dong, bust up, ruck; Scottish informal rammy; N. Amer. informal rhuabar; archaic broil, miff; Scottish archaic threap, collieshangie; French archaic tracasserie(s).

tight *adjective 1* *he took a tight grip on her arm:* **firm**, fast, secure, fixed, clenched, clinched.

▷ **ANTONYMS** relaxed, insecure.

2 *the rope was pulled tight:* **taut**, rigid, stiff, tense, stretched, strained, stressed.

▷ **ANTONYMS** slack.

3 *tight jeans:* **tight fitting**, close fitting, narrow, figure hugging, skintight, sheath like; informal sprayed on.

▷ **ANTONYMS** loose.

4 *a tight mass of fibres:* **compact**, compacted, compressed, dense, hard, unyielding, solid.

▷ **ANTONYMS** loose.

5 *rather a tight space:* **small**, tiny, narrow, compact, poky, limited, restricted, confined, cramped, constricted, uncomfortable, minimal, sparse, inadequate; rare strait, incommensurable.

▷ **ANTONYMS** generous, roomy.

6 *the joint will be perfectly tight against petrol leaks:* **impervious**, impenetrable, sealed, sound, hermetic, watertight, waterproof, airtight.

▷ **ANTONYMS** leaking.

7 *security was tight at yesterday's ceremony:* **strict**, rigorous, stringent, tough, rigid, firm, uncompromising, exacting, systematic, meticulous, painstaking, scrupulous.

▷ **ANTONYMS** lax.

8 *he's in a tight spot:* **problematic**, tricky, delicate, sensitive, controversial, awkward, prickly, thorny; **difficult**, knotty, tough, taxing, trying, troublesome, irksome, vexatious, bothersome, worrying, upsetting; informal sticky; Brit. informal dodgy.

▷ **ANTONYMS** problem free.

9 *there's no substitute for tight writing:* **succinct**, economic, pithy, crisp, straightforward, concise, condensed, well structured, laconic, terse, to the point, summary, short and sweet, in a few well-chosen words; rare compendious, epigrammatic, synoptic, aphoristic, gnomic.

▷ **ANTONYMS** verbose.

10 *it was a tight race:* **close**, even, evenly matched, well matched, hard fought, neck and neck.

▷ **ANTONYMS** open.

11 *money is a bit tight just now:* **scarce**, scanty, scant, skimpy, meagre, sparse; reduced, depleted, diminished, low, in short supply, limited; deficient, inadequate, insufficient.

▷ **ANTONYMS** plentiful, abundant.

12 *he's tight with his money:* **mean**, miserly, parsimonious, niggardly, close fisted, penny pinching, cheese paring, penurious, Scrooge like, ungenerous, illiberal, close; informal stingy, mungy, tight fisted; N. Amer. informal cheap; vulgar slang tight arsed; archaic near.

▷ **ANTONYMS** generous.

13 *informal he came home tight from the pub.* See **drunk**.

tighten *verb 1* *when the structure is flat, tighten up the fixing screws:* **secure**, make fast, make more secure, screw up, give an extra turn to.

▷ **ANTONYMS** loosen.

2 *he tightened his grip on her arm:* **strengthen**, make stronger, reinforce, harden, consolidate.

▷ **ANTONYMS** loosen.

3 *she tightened the rope about his ankles:* **tauten**, make/draw taut, make/draw tight, stretch, strain, extend, make rigid, rigidify, stiffen, tense.

▷ **ANTONYMS** slacken.

4 *my throat tightened [he tightened his lips]:* **narrow**, become narrower; narrower, become tight/tighter, become pinched; constrict, contract, brace, draw in, compress, screw up, pucker, purse; N. Amer. squinch; rare constringe.

▷ **ANTONYMS** relax.

5 *councillors have asked supermarkets to tighten up car park security:* **increase**, make stricter, make more rigorous, make more stringent, make more rigid, stiffen, toughen (up), heighten, escalate, scale up; informal up, crank up, beef (up).

▷ **ANTONYMS** relax.

▷ **tighten one's belt** *why dip into our savings, if we can tighten our belts instead?* **economize**, cut back, make cutbacks, make cuts, retrench, husband one's resources, budget, be (more) economical, make economies, be thrifty, be sparing, be frugal, buy (more) cheaply, use less, reduce/decrease wastage, scrimp, scrimp and save, scrimp and scrape, cut corners, draw in one's horns, count the/your pennies, watch the/your pennies, save (money), cut expenditure, cut costs; N. Amer. pinch the/your pennies; black English rake and scrape.

tight-fisted *adjective being tight-fisted individuals, we bypassed the fee-paying nature trail:* **mean**, miserly, parsimonious, niggardly, close fisted, penny pinching, cheese paring, penurious, Scrooge like, ungenerous, illiberal, close, informal stingy, mungy, tight; N. Amer. informal cheap; vulgar slang tight arsed; archaic near.

▷ **ANTONYMS** generous, liberal.

tight-lipped *adjective the company remains tight lipped about the launch date:* **reticent**, taciturn, uncommunicative, unforthcoming, unresponsive, close-mouthed, close-lipped; silent, quiet, unspeaking; guarded, secretive, private, withdrawn, playing one's cards close to one's chest, of few words, untalkative; informal mum.

▷ **ANTONYMS** forthcoming, chatty.

till *preposition & conjunction 1* *he stayed in bed till 7 [I will look after you till you die]:* **until**, up to, up till, up until, as late as, up to the time of, that, until such time as, pending; N. Amer. through.

▷ **ANTONYMS** beyond, after.

2 *ownership is not transferred till delivery:* **before**, prior to, previous to, up to, until, up until, up till, earlier than, in advance of, ante, pre.

▷ **ANTONYMS** after.

tie verb **1** *they tied Max to a chair:* **bind**, tie up, tether, hitch, strap, truss, fetter, rope, chain, make fast, moor, lash, attach, fasten, fix, secure, join, connect, link, couple.